

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of the claims and all prior listings of the claims in the present application.

Claims 1-32 (canceled)

Claim 33 (new): A method for manufacturing a tyre for a vehicle wheel, comprising:

producing a tyre;

inserting a plurality of metal studs into seats provided in a vulcanization mould;

retaining the studs in the seats;

inserting the tyre into the mould;

closing the mould;

vulcanizing the tyre; and

opening the mould to extract the vulcanized tyre;

wherein the tyre comprises a tread band,

wherein, during opening the mould, a predefined degree of clearance exists between lateral portions of each stud and respective seat,

wherein a design of the mould allows the studs to partially project from an external surface of the tread band of the vulcanized tyre,

wherein the studs are oriented in a substantially perpendicular arrangement with respect to the external surface, and

wherein, during opening the mould, the studs maintain the substantially perpendicular arrangement.

Claim 34 (new): The method of claim 33, wherein the studs are retained by magnetic force.

Claim 35 (new): The method of claim 33, further comprising chemically treating the studs with a bonding agent prior to inserting the plurality of metal studs.

Claim 36 (new): The method of claim 33, further comprising providing the studs with one or more coating layers.

Claim 37 (new): The method of claim 36, wherein at least one of the one or more coating layers is brass or an alloy comprising cobalt, copper, manganese, nickel, or zinc.

Claim 38 (new): The method of claim 36, wherein at least one of the one or more coating layers comprises a brass coating layer provided by electrolytic plating.

Claim 39 (new): The method of claim 36, wherein at least one of the one or more coating layers comprises a brass coating layer provided by electro-plating.

Claim 40 (new): A method for manufacturing a tyre for a vehicle wheel, comprising:

producing a tyre;
inserting a plurality of metal studs into seats provided in a vulcanization mould;
retaining the studs in the seats;
inserting the tyre into the mould;
closing the mould;
vulcanizing the tyre; and
opening the mould to extract the vulcanized tyre;
wherein the tyre comprises a tread band,
wherein, during opening the mould, the studs are not subjected to any flexural stress,
wherein a design of the mould allows the studs to partially project from an external
surface of the tread band of the vulcanized tyre,
wherein the studs are oriented in a substantially perpendicular arrangement with respect
to the external surface, and
wherein, during opening the mould, the studs maintain the substantially perpendicular
arrangement.

Claim 41 (new): The method of claim 40, wherein the studs are retained by magnetic
force.

Claim 42 (new): The method of claim 40, further comprising chemically treating the
studs with a bonding agent prior to inserting the plurality of metal studs.

Claim 43 (new): The method of claim 40, further comprising providing the studs with one or more coating layers.

Claim 44 (new): The method of claim 43, wherein at least one of the one or more coating layers is brass or an alloy comprising cobalt, copper, manganese, nickel, or zinc.

Claim 45 (new): The method of claim 43, wherein at least one of the one or more coating layers comprises a brass coating layer provided by electrolytic plating.

Claim 46 (new): The method of claim 43, wherein at least one of the one or more coating layers comprises a brass coating layer provided by electro-plating.

Claim 47 (new): A method for manufacturing a tyre for a vehicle wheel, comprising:
producing a tyre;
inserting a plurality of metal studs into seats provided in a vulcanization mould;
retaining the studs in the seats;
inserting the tyre into the mould;
closing the mould;
vulcanizing the tyre; and
opening the mould to extract the vulcanized tyre;
wherein the tyre comprises a tread band,

wherein, during opening the mould, the studs are not subjected to traction caused by friction against the seats,

wherein a design of the mould allows the studs to partially project from an external surface of the tread band of the vulcanized tyre,

wherein the studs are oriented in a substantially perpendicular arrangement with respect to the external surface, and

wherein, during opening the mould, the studs maintain the substantially perpendicular arrangement.

Claim 48 (new): The method of claim 47, wherein the studs are retained by magnetic force.

Claim 49 (new): The method of claim 47, further comprising chemically treating the studs with a bonding agent prior to inserting the plurality of metal studs.

Claim 50 (new): The method of claim 47, further comprising providing the studs with one or more coating layers.

Claim 51 (new): The method of claim 50, wherein at least one of the one or more coating layers is brass or an alloy comprising cobalt, copper, manganese, nickel, or zinc.

Claim 52 (new): The method of claim 50, wherein at least one of the one or more coating layers comprises a brass coating layer provided by electrolytic plating.

Claim 53 (new): The method of claim 50, wherein at least one of the one or more coating layers comprises a brass coating layer provided by electro-plating.

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheets of drawings correct reference characters in Figs. 2a and 2b and improve the clarity of Figs. 1, 2a, 2b, and 3.

Attachments: Four (4) Replacement Sheets (Figs. 1, 2a, 2b, and 3)
Two (2) Annotated Marked-up Drawings (Figs. 2a and 2b)